



Air Force Prime Time, a weekly news magazine for and about airmen stationed overseas, airs Thursdays at 8:25 p.m. Central European Time on AFN television. In this week's edition, an overview of the current Air Force mission at Tuzla Air Base, Bosnia, a group of civilians from Florida see Tuzla AB up close, and more.

News briefs

Alleged fraud in England

The British Ministry of Defense Police and Air Force Office of Special Investigations are jointly investigating a vehicle rental company used by U.S. members in and around Royal Air Force Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall, England.

The allegations are that the company may have charged for damage to rental vehicles that didn't occur. In addition, people may have been deceived and don't know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees.

To establish if you have been subjected to the alleged frauds by this company, Special Agent Valerie Mackin asks people to call OSI at 452-6291.

Air Force Ball

The Company Grade Officer's Council-sponsored Air Force Ball tonight celebrates the service's 54th birthday. Social hour starts at 6 p.m., with dinner starting at 7 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center.

As a result, the fitness center is closed today.

This year's theme is "NATO and Spangdahlem Air Base United in Airpower." Brig. Gen. Robert Elder Jr., NATO Reaction Force Air Staff deputy director at Allied Command Europe in Kalkar, Germany, is the guest speaker. Dress is mess dress or semi-formal for military members.

Top three meeting

The Spangdahlem Top Three Council meets at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the Saber Club. All senior NCOs and master sergeant selects are invited to attend.

For more information, call Master Sgt. James Rosel at 452-6112.

POW/MIA ceremony

A POW/MIA Day ceremony takes place Sept. 21. Events include a flag changing and wreath laying ceremony, inspirational readings, sentry duty, missing-man formation flyover, luncheon at 11:30 a.m. and a retreat ceremony. Times are still being finalized.

See Briefs, Page 2

Eifel Times

Vol. 35, Issue 31

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Sept. 7, 2001



Staff Sgt. Kimberly Cook

A STEP above

Hamida Vincent and Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hess, 3rd Air Force commander, tacks technical sergeant stripes on Hamida's husband, William Vincent. Hess promoted Vincent, 52nd Services Squadron, through the Stripes to Exceptional Performers system. Vincent is the manager of the Jet Blast Inn dining facility. Hess came to Spangdahlem Air Base Aug. 29 from Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, to visit the 52nd Fighter Wing and receive an update on the status of the Chief of Staff Logistics Review.

New commander takes over at 52nd Operations Group

Compiled from staff reports

Col. H.D. Polumbo Jr. assumed command of the 52nd Operations Group during an Aug. 29 afternoon ceremony in Hangar 1.

He comes to the Eifel region from the Pentagon, where he served as the foreign liaison division chief in the Office of the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff.

Former operations group commander, Col. Michael Beard, departs Spangdahlem Air Base to become the U.S. Central Command assistant chief of plans at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

"I'm excited to be a part of Team Eifel," Polumbo said. "My initial impression of the base and our people is fantastic — what a great group of warriors ready to meet any tasking the wing commander asks of us."

"To do so, we need to maintain our combat readiness each and

every day. Our people and equipment will be at the center of any contingency operation or conflict anywhere in the world.

"I ask and expect my people to meet any tasking, anytime, anywhere and end up right on target wherever we go. Every member of the group has a key role in maintaining this high state of readiness. It's quite a challenge."

Polumbo was commissioned in 1981 through the U.S. Air Force Academy. He has served in a variety of positions including instructor pilot, flight examiner and commander, operations officer and squadron commander. He has two tours of duty in the Pacific and one in Europe, where he served with Allied Air Forces Northwestern Europe. He also served as a National Defense Fellow at Georgetown University for a year.

The colonel is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in all blocks of the F-16.

Hometown news teams hit Holiday Greetings trail

By Tech. Sgt. Miconna J. Boaldin
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — Three Army and Air Force Hometown News Service broadcast teams will, once again, hit the Holiday Greetings trail in September, including stops at 52nd Fighter Wing areas and deployed locations.

Holiday greetings are recorded video messages, from Army, Air Force, Navy and

Marine service members and their families stationed overseas, which will air on more than 1,100 hometown television and cable outlets.

The first team of military broadcasters leaves Wednesday for Europe with the second and third team departing Sept. 14 and 15 for the Pacific and Southwest Asia theaters, respectively.

"This year the teams will cover people in

more than 75 locations in 42 days," said Tom Taylor, Army and Air Force Hometown News Service broadcast division chief. "The videotaped greetings then will be sent to the individual's hometown television stations for broadcast during the 2001 holiday season."

The primary goal is to help boost the morale for those away from home during the holidays.

"Our priority is to hit the remote areas like Kosovo, Bosnia, and Kuwait," Taylor said. "The response to these type of messages over the years has been phenomenal with television programmers enthusiastic about providing this community service to the families of those in the armed forces."

See Greetings, Page 2

Greetings

Continued from Page 1

The three teams collected 8,300 greetings during the 2000 Holiday Greeting effort, which ultimately reached an audience estimated in the tens of millions, Taylor said.

"We cannot give the TV stations enough when it comes to the Holiday Greetings," Taylor said. "The response from families each year is very positive and their expressions of appreciation makes the grueling travel and production schedules well worth the effort."

In conjunction with the video taping by the Hometown News teams, at least two additional locations will have the greetings shot by local military broadcasters and production facilities. This allows coverage in areas the teams can't fit in their already packed shooting schedule.

Along with airing on hometown TV stations, some 600-holiday greetings can be viewed on the Hometown News Web site. Because of the size of the files, and the sheer numbers, not

all greetings are put on the Web site, Taylor said.

To add to the success of the TV greetings, the audio from these messages are extracted and sent to hometown radio stations as well.

"We use the audio from the video greetings as well as tapes sent to us from bases throughout the armed forces," said Larry Gilliam, Army and Air Force Hometown News deputy director.

The greetings are also edited into radio spots that are sent to stations interested in receiving the free Hometown News information. All the greetings are sent to radio and TV stations based on the submitter's hometown ZIP code. Stations from their area that subscribe to Hometown News products receive the video and audio spots to air as a public service throughout the holidays.

Listed below is the 52nd Fighter Wing areas and deployed locations scheduled for visits by a team. Interested service members should contact their public affairs office

for the specific time and location at their respective locations. The schedule is subject to change.

■Sept. 24: Schinnen

■Sept. 25: NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen (call Tech. Sgt. Darrin Booher at 02451-63-2276 or darrin.booher@geilenkirchen.af.mil)

■Sept. 26: 8 a.m. to noon at Volkel Air Base (call Senior Master Sgt. William Hubbart at 360-7218) and 1-4 p.m. at Klein Brogel Air Base (call Senior Airman Bethany Weathersbee at 366-6180, ext. 224)

■Oct. 7-9: Spangdahlem AB (call Tech. Sgt. Darrell Brewer at 452-6833; Buechel Air Base members call Capt. Brian Hollomon at 452-7340, ext. 211)

■Oct. 19-20: Prince Sultan AB, Southwest Asia

■Oct. 21: Eskan Village, Southwest Asia



Staff Sgt. Pamela Farlin

Testing leadership

Gen. Gregory Martin, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, briefs squadron commanders from across Europe during the USAFE Squadron Commander's Course Aug. 22 at Ramstein Air Base. The forum was used to test a new Chief of Staff of the Air Force initiative -- Developing Aerospace Leaders -- in an effort to institutionalize an Air Force concept of leadership throughout the service. The test will help determine how the material will be implemented throughout the Air Force. Lt. Col. Pete Ellis, 52nd Mission Support Squadron commander, thought DAL needs to be exported earlier in an officer's career and reinforced before the assumption of command. "It's a good shot in the arm before taking command," he said. "It gave me some validation of things I'm doing and things to think about. I really like it." He also liked the tie-in to the Air Force's heritage and culture.

Accidents

By Staff Sgt. Edward D. Paxton
52nd Security Forces Squadron
Reports and analysis

(Editor's Note: The term airman in this article does not necessarily mean Air Force people in the grades E-1 through E-4, but a generic term for all Air Force members.)

Team Eifel members experienced 10 vehicle accidents in the past week, three of which were major.

The first major accident occurred when an airman attempted to merge left, failed to yield and hit a German on A-64 near Trier. Her vehicle sustained damage to the left bumper, fender and broke the left front wheel. The German's vehicle was totaled.

The next accident happened when a German on highway B-257 in Wolsfeld sideswiped a family member. A Bitburg Polizei investigation revealed she was preparing to make a left turn onto B-257 from a side street, stopped at the stop sign and drove forward to ensure the road was clear. After checking both directions of travel, she drove into oncoming traffic, saw the German's vehicle approaching from the left and accelerated past the German's vehicle to avoid being hit. The German was unable to steer clear of the family member's vehicle and struck the rear end. The family

member's vehicle sustained dents to the driver-side rear door and a bent rear axle.

The last accident took place when an airman hit a parked vehicle, forcing that vehicle to collide with another. A security forces investigation revealed he was traveling too fast for road conditions, attempted to negotiate a curve on L-46 through Spangdahlem and lost control. His vehicle was totaled and he was treated on-scene for minor cuts.

The seven minor accidents involved:

■Two for speed too fast for road conditions.

■One accident occurred while backing.

■Three were from inattentive driving.

■One animal strike.

In addition, 25 citations were issued this past week.

Please write down and keep in mind the following alternative rides.

AADD 0656561-2233

Taxi- Spangdahlem 06565-951010

Taxi-Bitburg 06561-17066

Lastly, when in doubt use your chain of command.

Briefs

Continued from
Page 1

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Rick Aldridge at 452-6501 or Tech. Sgt. Sonny Gomez at 452-5631.

Consular Day

Because of the Local Salty Nation Phase II exercise scheduled for Sept. 17-21, the Consular Outreach Day originally

scheduled for Sept. 19 will be rescheduled.

Airman convicted of drug use

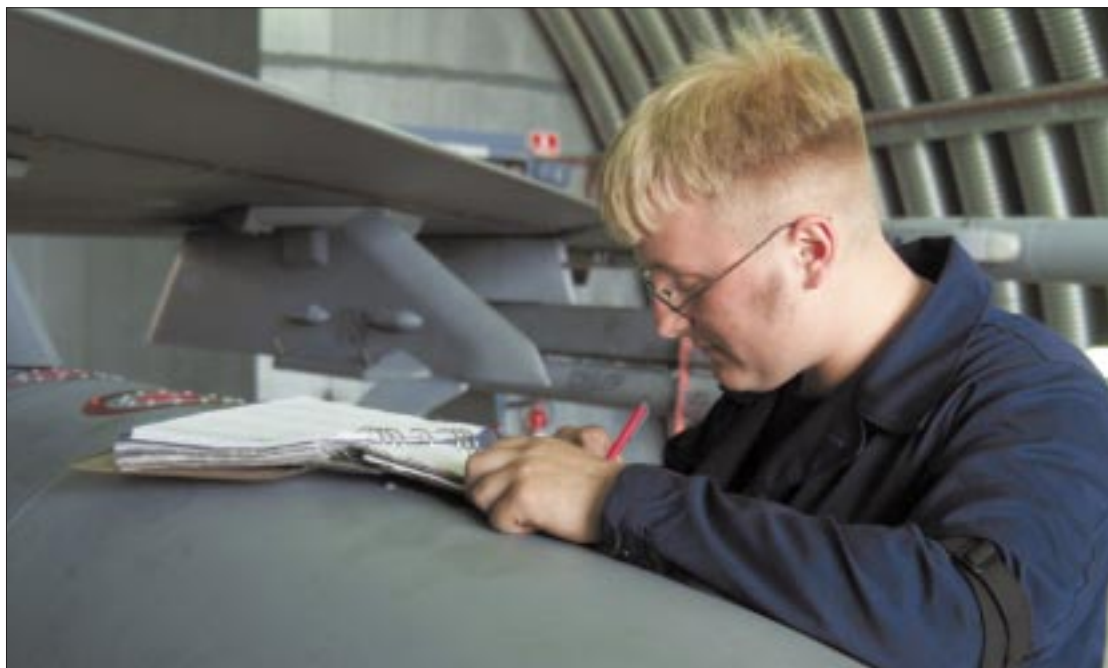
A judge sentenced Airman Basic Phillip A. Jordan to five months confinement and a bad conduct discharge for drug use during an Aug. 29 special court-martial.

Jordan, assigned to the 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron,

pleaded guilty to one specification each of possession, use and distribution of ecstasy, all on repeated occasions. The offenses occurred between July 22 and Aug. 17, 2000.

OTS selection

Tech. Sgt. Michelle Hawk, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, was recently selected for Officer Training School.



Airman 1st Class Kevin Buntman, crew chief, signs off maintenance forms.

DENMARK DUTY

Eight F-16CJs from the 23rd Fighter Squadron and about 150 airmen from the 52nd Fighter Wing recently returned from a two-week deployment to Denmark.

The airmen were deployed to Air Base Aalborg in support of the annual Tactical Fighter Weaponry-01 exercise aimed at training and exercising NATO forces.

While deployed, pilots had the opportunity to drop 500-pound inert bombs on ranges in Denmark.

"Working with the Danish pilots gave us the opportunity to get familiar with their pilots and tactics," said Lt. Col. Kevin Booth, 23rd FS director of operations. "The missions in Denmark became increasingly challenging as we started to expand into unfamiliar Norwegian airspace."

"This TDY showed how the whole maintenance team can jell as a team," said Senior Master Sgt. Johannes Meischke, 23rd FS maintenance project officer.

An unusual competition held during the second week was designed to see which crew chief and launch assistant could marshal the pilots in the most unique way. The winners — Airmen 1st Class Steven Maestas and Trevor Birch — walked away from the competition with a good meal and other "trinkets" for the remaining two days in Denmark.

Story and photos by
Capt. Angela Johnson
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office



Above, Master Sgt. James Parker and Staff Sgt. Linda Farias discuss repair options on a broken cockpit radio with Lt. Col. Kevin Booth. Left, Staff Sgt. Glen Presswood checks for cracks and other potential problems on F-16 engine blades.



Senior Airman Paul Craycroft, crew chief, checks the Delta-P to ensure there are no hydraulic or oil leaks.



Staff Sgt. Cindy York

Call to arms

Senior Airman Yasmin McKenzie, 22nd Fighter Squadron weapons specialist, arms an AIM-9. McKenzie and about 170 maintainers, support members and pilots, mostly from the 22nd FS, are deployed to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., for Red Flag 01-4. The contingent is due to return to Spangdahlem Air Base next week.

High school football season starts with Bitburg team defending title

By Rick Carr
Bitburg High School
Football coach

Bitburg High School's football team returns to the field Saturday to begin its defense of its two-year championship title.

This year's team is young and inexperienced, with only three returning starters and four other lettermen. Seniors Travis Carr, quarterback, safety and captain; Josh Blake, split back, linebacker and captain, and Matt Holas, offensive and defensive lineman; anchor the returning team.

Assisting the younger

players are senior lettermen Preston Runquist and Ernest Burr, and juniors Braden Blake and Ryan Thomas.

The team has 54 players with a fairly even split between the senior and junior teams. The road to the Nov. 10 Division II title game goes through:

■ Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium, a nonconference home game, at 1 p.m. Saturday.

■ Hanau, Germany, an away game with the junior varsity at 10 a.m. and varsity at 1 p.m. Sept. 15.

■ Baumholder, Germany,

Sept. 22. Details are still being worked.

■ International School of Brussels, Belgium, an away game with the varsity at 1 p.m. Sept. 29 followed by the JV.

■ Air Forces North, a 1 p.m. Oct. 6 homecoming game followed by the JV.

■ Patch Barracks, a "Parents Day" game Oct. 13. Details are still in the works.

■ SHAPE, an away game with the varsity at 1 p.m. Oct. 21 followed by the JV.

■ Division II playoffs Oct. 27.

Problems persist with switch to new personnel data system

AFPC call center works fixes until long-term solutions found

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas

— Three months after the launch of the Air Force's new personnel data system, some problems have been worked out, but officials said the journey is not over.

Reports are flying in to local units of serious pay problems. Many of these reports are true, and it's "simply not acceptable," said Maj. Gen. Michael C. McMahan, AFPC commander.

"It's frankly upsetting that airmen have been inconvenienced and financially stressed because of the transition to the new system," McMahan said. "Getting no pay or the wrong pay; or waiting months for a re-enlistment bonus is not something we should be putting our people through, especially when we're at the same time asking people to make the Air Force a career."

"We're working on every level — directly with the individuals, with local finance offices and with other agencies like the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to get people paid, paid right, and paid on time."

And, according to officials, it looks like the causes of most of those problems have been identified and long-term fixes are being developed.

In the short term, people are getting paid on paydays and the delayed re-enlistment bonuses should be paid out by the end of September, said Lt. Col. Richard Treasure, chief of the requirements systems division.

"There will certainly be pay problems that continue to crop up — there were before this changeover — but that's what the (military personnel flights) and the finance offices are there for: to help people with those problems," Treasure said.

Officials are also keeping a close eye on the assignment process.

"We are working to get the enlisted assignment process back on track, after it was essentially put on hold over the summer because of the transition to the new system," Treasure said.

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas returnees in the November through January cycle is now posted to the AFPC Web site and is available at local MPFs and commander's support staff offices.

People who have applied for a voluntary assignment action — base of preference, joint spouse, special duty, etc., are still waiting.

"We can't do the voluntary assignment actions until we know who is most eligible to go overseas," Treasure said. "And since we are having technical problems with that data, we're having to hold off approving those voluntary applications."

Information on the overseas EQUAL, scheduled for release Aug. 7, is still forthcoming. Details will be sent to the field as soon as officials know when they will be able to release that list, officials said.

"It's like one giant puzzle," McMahan said. "We fixed the pieces for one thing and then we've got to get to work on all the other pieces."

As AFPC officials continue fine-tuning the new system, people manning local military personnel flights are staying very busy.

People doing business with their local MPFs may have to wait longer for some actions to be completed, officials said. All the routine requests can be taken care of, but it may take some extra time.

"The individual knows their personnel history better than anyone else," Treasure said. So officials are asking them to review their records carefully and alert the MPF of any discrepancies.

Individuals who do not get their problems resolved through the local MPF or accounting and finance office can contact the AFPC Call Center at (800) 558-1404, DSN 665-2949 or e-mail afpc.dpsfm@afpc.randolph.af.mil. Voice mail answers after-hours calls.

"We understand that everyone is frustrated and that patience is running thin," McMahan said. "We knew this was going to be a bumpy ride — and it has been. We expect the system to be running smoother by the beginning of next year." (Air Force Print News)



Community Mailbox

Chapel potlucks

Protestant Unity joins all worship services together at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Bitburg Annex medical group pavilion for worship communion and a potluck. In case of bad weather, it takes place in the Bitburg Annex Chapel. This is the only Protestant service for the day.

Catholic Mass in the Grass joins all Catholic communities at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the Spangdahlem AB pavilion near the bowling alley for mass and a potluck. In case of bad weather, it takes place in the Spangdahlem AB Chapel. This is the only mass for the day.

For more information, call the Spangdahlem AB Chapel at 452-6711.

Volunteer supervisory course

A volunteer supervisory course takes place 8-11 a.m. Wednesday in the Bitburg Annex family support center in building 2001.

Co-sponsored by the FSC and American Red Cross, the course is designed to teach volunteers how they can improve their services and productivity.

To register, call the FSC at 452-9491.

Swim team

The Eifel Sharks swim team needs swimmers, including high school students, who can earn a varsity letter. The only criterion is swimmers must be able to swim the length of the pool unassisted.



Capt. Todd Alcott

Belgian American Friendship Day

Beverly Mabes, wife of 52nd Munitions Support Squadron commander Lt. Col. John Mabes, and a Belgian enjoy the food at the recent Kleine Brogel Air Base Belgium American Friendship Day. More than 1,500 people took part in the event, held annually to say thanks to the units host country, said Capt. Todd Alcott, 52nd MUNSS mission support flight commander.

Registration takes place 6-8 p.m. Thursday in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center. Registration costs \$10 per swimmer or \$20 per family. Monthly fees are \$35 per month per person with family rates also available.

The team also needs coaches. For more information, call Laura Darden at 06561-604768.

Pre-teen lock-in

An all night pre-teen (ages 10-12) lock-in

for youth activities cardholders takes place 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sept. 15 in the Spangdahlem AB Teen Center in building 458. Activities include tournaments, karaoke, crafts and more.

For more information, call 452-7852 or 452-7545.

First aid, CPR class

The American Red Cross holds a community first aid and safety course 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 15 in the Bitburg

Annex Red Cross in building 2001. To register or for more information, call 452-9440.

Tuition assistance

Military tuition assistance forms for all classes starting on or before Sept. 30 must be received by the education center by the close of business Sept. 17.

Forms that are submitted afterward will be disapproved. For more information, call the education center at 452-6063.

Puppy kindergarten

A class for puppies' 6-months-old and younger takes place 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sept. 18 through Oct. 19. Call the pet spa at 452-9362 for details.

OCSC

The Officers and Civilians Spouses Club meets for lunch at 11 a.m. Sept. 19 in the Spang Club. For reservations, call Lisa Larkin at 06575-903464 or Rebecca Hinton at 06575-959416 by noon Sept. 14.

La Leche League

The La Leche League meets at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 19 in the Bitburg Annex Hospital conference room. For more information, call Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555 or Alice DaFoe at 06561-683893.

Holiday bazaar

Private organizations interested in operating a food booth at the 2001 Eifel Holiday Bazaar should request applications by Oct. 1. Call Diane McNamara at 06562-932840, Roberta Shipp at 06575-903414 or e-mail FOODBOOTH01@aol.com for details.

At Your SERVICE

SPANGDAHLEM

Chapel

- Catholic Mass: 11:45 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday; and 9:30 a.m. Sunday a.m. Sunday
- Protestant Sunday worship: 11:15 a.m.
- Protestant Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.

Child development center

- Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Commissary

- Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Main exchange

- Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

BXtra (shopette)

- Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gas station

- Monday-Saturday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Sunday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- (NOTE: This is a 90-day test of these hours.)

Outdoor recreation

- Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Airmen's Attic

- Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bowling center

- Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to midnight
- Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.

BITBURG

Chapel

- Catholic Mass: 9:15 a.m. Tuesday and 11:30 a.m. Sunday
- Catholic religious education: 9:45 a.m. Sunday
- Protestant Sunday worship: 8:15 a.m. liturgical; 9:35 a.m. contemporary; and 1 p.m. Gospel
- Protestant Sunday school: 11:30 a.m.

Child development center

- Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Commissary

- Monday, closed
- Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Shoppette

- Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Furniture store

- Monday, closed
- Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Main exchange

- Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gas station

- Monday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Car care center

- Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, closed

Airmen's Attic

- Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Oberweiss Annex

Pet spa

- Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Teenager from Spang GSU wins trip to country concert through Extreme Summer

By Sylvia Ramseyer
USAFE Services

SEMBACH ANNEX, Germany — Three USAFE teens and their families, one from a Spangdahlem Air Base unit, head to the Texas State Fair in Dallas Oct. 13 to attend a LeAnn Rimes concert, compliments of USAFE Services and the Extreme Summer contest.

The winners fly back to the states for the concert, up front seats, back stage passes to meet Rimes and join her for a buffet dinner before the show.

The three lucky United States Air Forces in Europe winners are:

■ Tyson Sickles, age 13, from Buechel Air Base, Germany

■ Emily Johnson, age 15, from Sembach Annex, Germany

■ Maresa Mailles, age 16, Royal Air Force Croughton, England

Winners can take up to three family members with them, will have hotel accommodations for five nights and

receives a rental car for the duration of their trip.

"Cool, this is just so cool," Sickles said when she was contacted by USAFE Services to inform her she was a winner.

A trip to the LeAnn Rimes concert is only one of many prizes in the Extreme Summer-X2K1 Program, a USAFE initiative for teens 13-18 years old.

Earlier this month, three Extreme Summer teen winners and their families flew to San Antonio to attend a *NSYNC concert. Three teens will also win a trip to a Destiny's Child concert in Seattle.

Teens are eligible for prizes by being awarded points throughout the summer for participating in services youth programs, teen center and other educational, cultural or volunteer events.

Teens interested in Extreme Summer and want to enroll in the program, or to see more of the prizes that can be won through this contest should check out www.extremesummer.com.



In the classroom



School dance

An "Aloha Bowl Dance" takes place 7-11 p.m. Saturday in the cafeteria for Bitburg High School students.

Admission is \$5 per person or \$8 per couple. The dance is sponsored by the Model United Nations.

DODEA director visit

Dr. Joe Tafoya, Department of Defense Education Activity director, visits Spangdahlem Middle School classrooms 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday.

He also holds a welcome forum with parents at 3:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center.

Mentor program

Volunteers are needed for the Spangdahlem Middle School mentor program beginning Oct. 1. About 50 people are needed to serve as mentors.

Program goals are to improve student ability in setting and achieving goals, recognizing the link between education and work, and to discover and build upon new strengths.

Training takes place at 3 p.m.

Thursday in the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel Annex. Another training day will be arranged for people who can't attend the mass session.

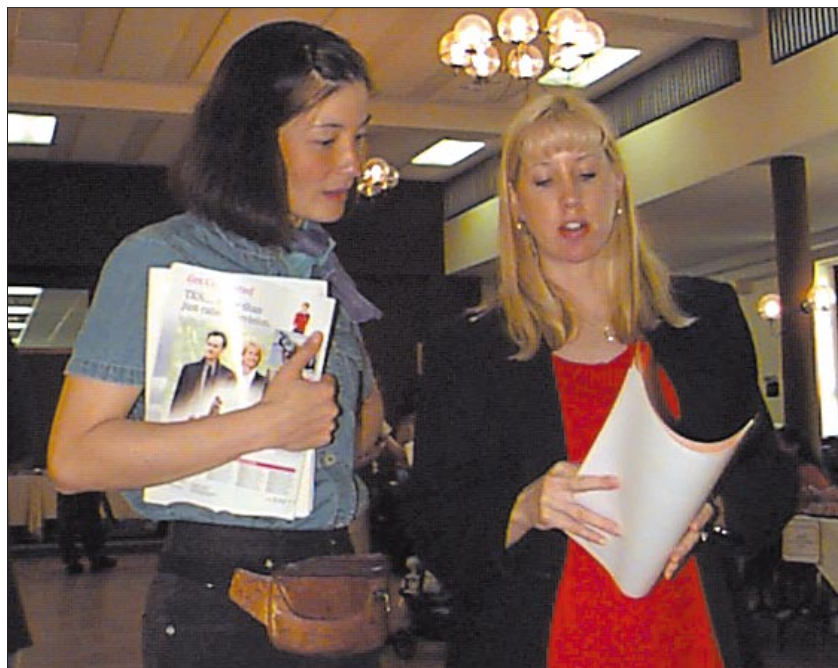
Volunteers need only commit one hour a week to the program. For more information, call Capt. Erik Bruce at 452-7557.

Child Find screening

Spangdahlem Elementary School conducts Child Find screening Sept. 28 for 3- and 4-year-old children who have a suspected developmental delay in language, social, motor, cognitive or self-help skills.

The screening is only for children whose parents live on Spangdahlem Air Base or within the base feeder plan. A list of villages that fall within the base feeder area is available from transportation.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 452-5071 or 452-6881 after 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.



Courtesy photo

Job hunting made easy

At right, Jackie Abel, volunteer coordinator for the family support center, assists a spouse during the June job fair. More than 120 people turned out at the event, with more than 30 getting hired on-the-spot, said Jane Allen, FSC career focus specialist. The civilian personnel office sponsors its next job fair 2-6 p.m. Oct. 1 in the Spangdahlem AB officers club. Depending upon background checks, Allen said there is the potential for on-the-spot hiring. "We hope for an even bigger showing," she said. For more information, call Allen at 452-9491.

Lady Sabers win USAFE softball title

Crown leads to Army, AF final four

Compiled from staff reports

Spangdahlem Air Base's Lady Saber varsity softball team won the United States Air Forces in Europe championship Sunday.

The title earned them the top USAFE seed in the Army, Air Force final four tournament at Ansbach Saturday and Sunday.

Winning the weekend tournament with a 5-1 record, the Lady Sabers pounded Aviano Air Base, Italy, 19-5 in the title match.

First-year pitcher Leslie Brandt credited strong defense as a major factor in the victory, although she had plenty of offensive help. Mandy Snyder stroked three inside-the-park homers. Val Makin, extra hitter, rounded the bases twice on hits over the heads of Aviano outfielders. Makin took over at third base after starter Keri Van Derd was injured by a sliding base runner.

TOPS IN BLUE tours Eifel

Compiled from staff reports

TOPS IN BLUE performs at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 23 in the Spangdahlem Air Base Fitness Center with the base's own Staff Sgt. Walter Campbell, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron.

TOPS IN BLUE is one of the oldest and most widely traveled entertainment groups of its kind, made up of 36 vocalists, musicians and dancers. Their purpose is to perform for military and family members throughout the world.

Each year, Air Force members stationed worldwide compete in a multi-level competition for the right to be selected as a member of the elite unit. This team is an all-active duty U.S. Air Force special unit made up of amateur performers selected for the entertainment abilities. For more information, call the community center at 452-7381.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. More movie synopsis information is available at:

www.aafes.com/europe/eur_mov/snop.htm

Bitburg Castle

Today

Planet of the Apes (PG-13)

In 2029, Astronaut Leo Davidson boards a space station for a routine reconnaissance mission, but an abrupt detour lands him on a planet where talking apes rule the human race. The race is on to reach a sacred temple to discover the shocking secrets of mankind's past and the key to its future.

Saturday

Atlantis: The Lost Empire (PG, 4 p.m.)

Milo Thatch dreams of completing the quest begun by his late grandfather. When a long lost journal surfaces, providing new clues to the location, the action shifts into high gear. Thatch leads Commander Rourke and his team to the elusive undersea kingdom, but what they find there defies their expectations.

Planet of the Apes

Sunday

Atlantis: The Lost Empire (4 and 7 p.m.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Planet of the Apes

Thursday

Dr. Doolittle 2 (PG)

Dr. Doolittle's animal friends want more than office visits. They want to save their forest from unscrupulous human developers. Doolittle and company give the money-hungry land-grabbers a taste of real bargaining power wilderness style.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Tonight

Rush Hour 2 (PG-13)

Hong Kong inspector Lee and Los Angeles Police Department detective Carter arrive in Hong Kong for a vacation. No sooner do they arrive, and they are confronted with the biggest case of their careers. A bomb has exploded in the American Embassy, killing two U.S. Customs agents who had been investigating a money smuggling ring.

Saturday

Rush Hour 2**The Fast and the Furious**

(PG-13; 9:30 p.m.)

Domenic is the leader of a street gang that race Japanese cars. He is under suspicion of stealing expensive electronic equipment. Meanwhile, an undercover police officer attempts to find the person responsible for stealing the equipment, and winds up falling for Domenic's younger sister.

Sunday

Dr. Doolittle 2 (4 and 7 p.m.)

Monday

Dr. Doolittle 2

Tuesday

The Fast and the Furious

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Bad Duerkheim fest begins this weekend

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The 585th annual Bad Duerkheim Wine and Sausage Fest, or Wurstmart, takes place today through Tuesday and Sept. 14-17.

This festival, which dates to 1417, attracts people from all over the world. It originally began as an important economic boost for the town of Bad Duerkheim.

Starting in 1750, the market became a more steady institution and the demand among the population for sausage drastically increased at the three-day event. In 1800, the market turned into a festival and in 1832 it adopted the name Wurstmart.

Today the traditional sausage market is considered the world's best wine festival, starting the second weekend in September at the Bruehlwiesen grounds. Visitors consume more than 220,000 liters of wine, 400,000 pounds of meat and 60,000 chickens.

There are three festival halls with 1,300 seats each, 36 wine tents where German brass bands perform, a big amusement park and more than 40 sausage and chicken food stands. More than 250 wines are available at the wine stands. A huge amusement ride park features a 65-meter long roller coaster, the Super Family Slide, the Break Dancer ride, the Happy Sailor ride, the Salto Mortale ride, which is the highest ride on the grounds, a 59-meter high free-fall tower,

the Frisbee Family Ride, a haunted house, the Super Wave Flyer, the Dynamic Trip simulator ride and more.

Music and entertainment are provided throughout the festival in and outside the festival halls and tents. Among the highlights are an opening ceremony parade, a historical play, a special Wurstmart exhibition and two fireworks displays.

Bad Duerkheim is a spa resort located in the heart of the Pfalz region, (between Kaiserslautern and Mannheim) along the scenic Deutsche Weinstrasse, or German Wine Street.

Because of the central location of Bad Duerkheim, bus and rail connections are readily available for people who don't plan on driving to the festival.

For more information about Bad Duerkheim and the wine festival, call the town's tourist information office at 06322-19433.

The Information, Tickets and Tours office offers a trip Saturday to the festival grounds. Cost is \$25 for adults and \$20 for children, age 3-12. The bus leaves Spangdahlem at 1 p.m. and returns about 1 a.m. Sunday. The tour includes round-trip bus transportation and service of an ITT escort.



Courtesy photo

When in Rome

Dressed in typical Roman outfits as pictured above, the "Milites Bedenses" Roman soldiers of Bitburg Land hold a festival for the local community 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in Fliessem at the Roman Villa Otrang. The villa is one of the best preserved Roman ruins north of the Alps. Entry to the festival costs 5 DM, free for children up to age 14. For more information, call 0651-8246100.



Out and about



■ See the Eifel from the air Sunday during the annual Bitburg family flying day at the former Bitburg air base. Events take place beginning at 11 a.m. in front of the Bitburg air base tower. Spangdahlem Air Base will have a display aircraft and perform a flying demonstration. For details, prices or to make a reservation to see the Eifel from the air, call 06561-9100 or 06561-91500.

■ Zeltingen, a part of Zeltingen-Rachtig, celebrates its annual street festival through Monday with wine tasting, Mosel food specialties and entertainment. This is a small festival compared to the Bernkastel Middle-Mosel wine fest, but it's popular and attracts a crowd from the Mosel and Eifel area. To get to Zeltingen, drive through Wittlich, follow the signs toward Autobahn A-1, then toward Wittlich-Wengerohr and Bernkastel, and finally toward Zeltingen-Rachtig.

■ Attend the annual farmer's

and handicraft market at the Burg festival of Mayen Saturday and Sunday. To get to Mayen, take Autobahn A-1 from Wittlich toward Koblenz and exit at Mayen.

■ Shop at a flea market Sunday in the Trier Messepark grounds; along the Uerzig Mosel shore; inside and outside the Pruem Mehrzweck hall; in front of the Bernkastel-Kues Norma store; in front of the Bernkastel-Kues Gueter hall; at the Idar Oberstein festival grounds and at the Mainz University parking place, located on Westorf.

■ Enjoy one of Europe's greatest folks festivals through Monday in Luxembourg City. The Schobermesse offers about 200 rides, game booths, sales stands and other attractions. For more information, go to www.fouer.lu.

■ Sports cars such as Lamborghini, Ferrari and Porsche race the Nuerburgring track this weekend for the FIA GT Master Championships.

Other races include the FIA Super Touring and Superproduction EM race and a FORMEL Renault 2000 Eurocup race. The "Super Racing Weekend" at Nuerburgring airs on European television, especially the EUROSPORT channel.

■ Plan to combine a sightseeing tour of Aachen with a city festival through Sunday.

■ Trier invites people to its annual play and games festival Saturday in the center of town.

■ A New-Pop-Festival takes place Sept. 20-22 in Baden-Baden.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in September. Children prices are for ages 3-12 unless otherwise indicated. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center at 452-6567 or the Bitburg Annex Community Center at 452-9120 for details.

■ Brussels express, Saturday, \$40 for adults, \$35 for children.

■ Paris with one overnight, Sept. 15-16, \$185 for adults, \$130 for children.

■ Rhein in Flames, Sept. 15, \$80 per person.

■ Ramstein Air Base bazaar, Sept. 15, \$20 for adults, \$15 for children.

■ Oktoberfest with one overnight, Sept. 22-23, \$179 per person.

■ Oktoberfest express, Sept. 22, \$70 per person.

■ Cochem medieval dinner, Sept. 22, \$65 per person.

■ Oktoberfest express, Sept. 29, \$70 per person.

■ Paris express, Sept. 29, \$89 for adults, \$75 for youth ages 3-17.

The outdoor recreation program sponsors the following trips in September. Call 452-7176 for more details.

■ Two-day caving trip in Luxembourg, Sept. 15-16, minimum age is 14, \$70 per person.